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7/23/2001

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Oran D. Tarlton

Serial No.: 09/369,134

Filed: August 5, 1999

For: COMPOSITE METAL-TO-METAL SEAL
HAVING A RELATIVELY SOFT METAL
OVERLAY AND A RELATIVELY HARD
METAL CORE

Group Art Unit: 3626

Examiner: V. Patel

Atty. Dkt. No.: LTVA:102/AUC

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JUL 31 2001

TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO FINAL OFFICIAL ACTION DATED APRIL 23, 2001

Box AF

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action dated April 23, 2001, enclosed is a Notice of Appeal. Claims 4, 11, and 26 are re-written in independent form below in order to present them in better form for allowance or appeal by providing groups of independent claims corresponding to the grouping that the claims would have upon appeal. A check in the amount of \$470.00 is enclosed to cover the fee for the Notice of Appeal (\$310.00) and the fee (\$160.00) for presenting two independent claims in excess of the number previously paid for. Please deduct any deficiency in the required fees from Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP., Deposit Account No. 01-2508, order No. 11666.0102.NPUS00. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of

07/30/2001 GTEFFERA 00000027 09369134

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